### Summary of Biological Monitoring Activities in the City of Carlsbad





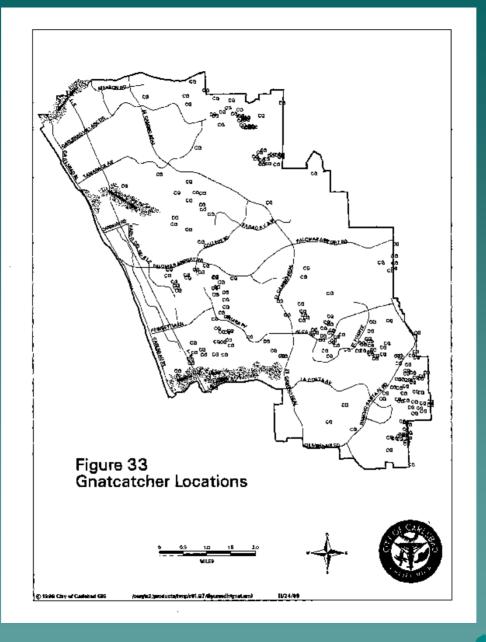
The Center for Natural Lands Management

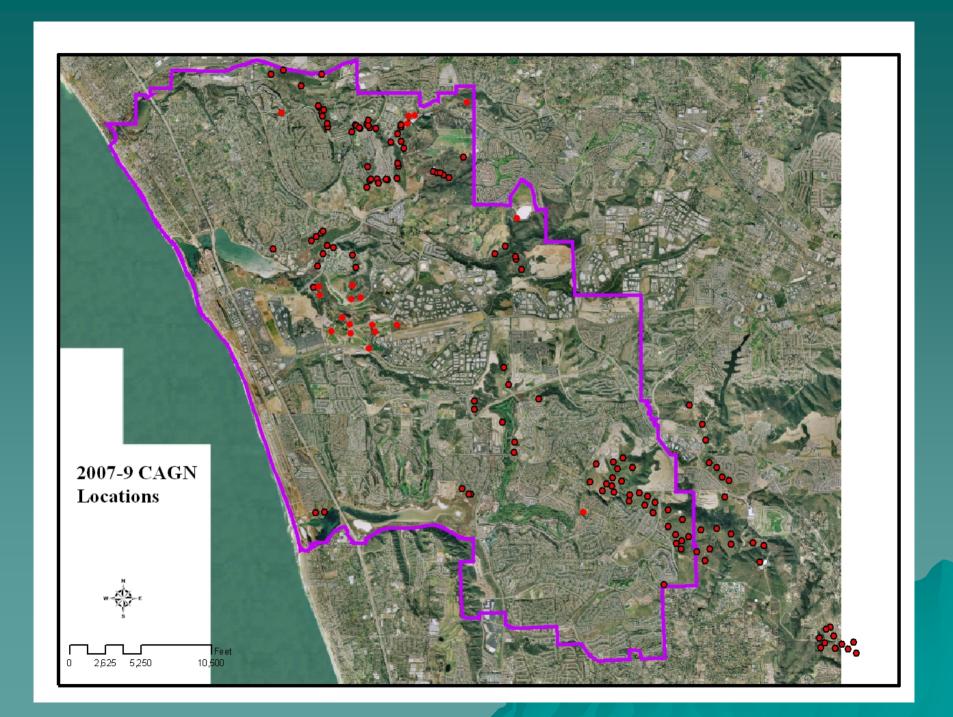
#### Activities

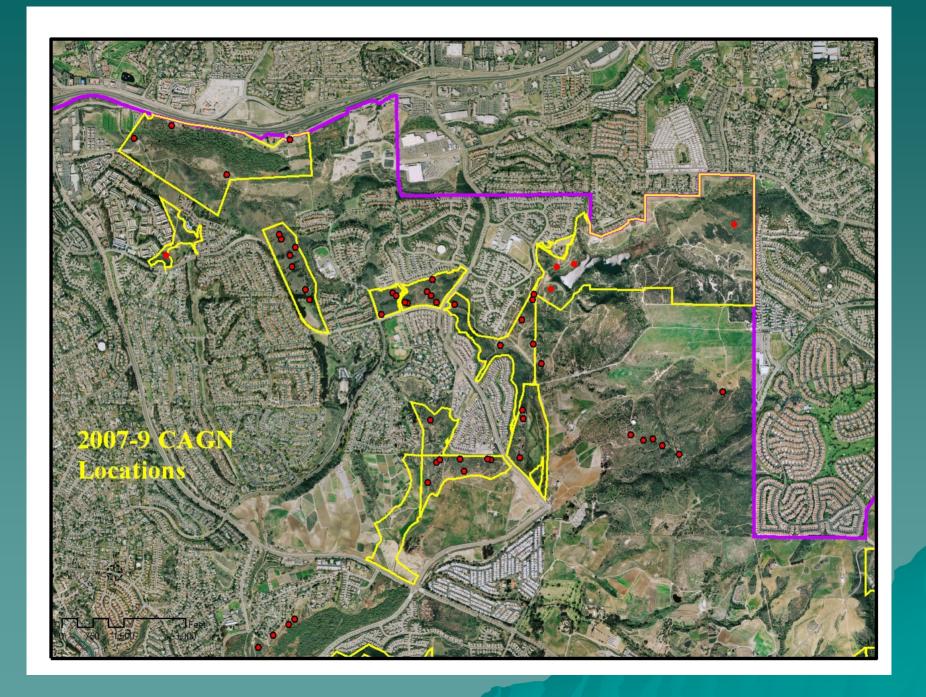
- Coastal California gnatcatcher surveys 2007-2009.
- Least Bell's vireo surveys.
- Thread-leaved brodiaea surveys and studies.
- Fusilade experiment in east County.
- San Diego thornmint surveys and update.
- Orcutt's hazardia update
- CSS habitat evaluation study.

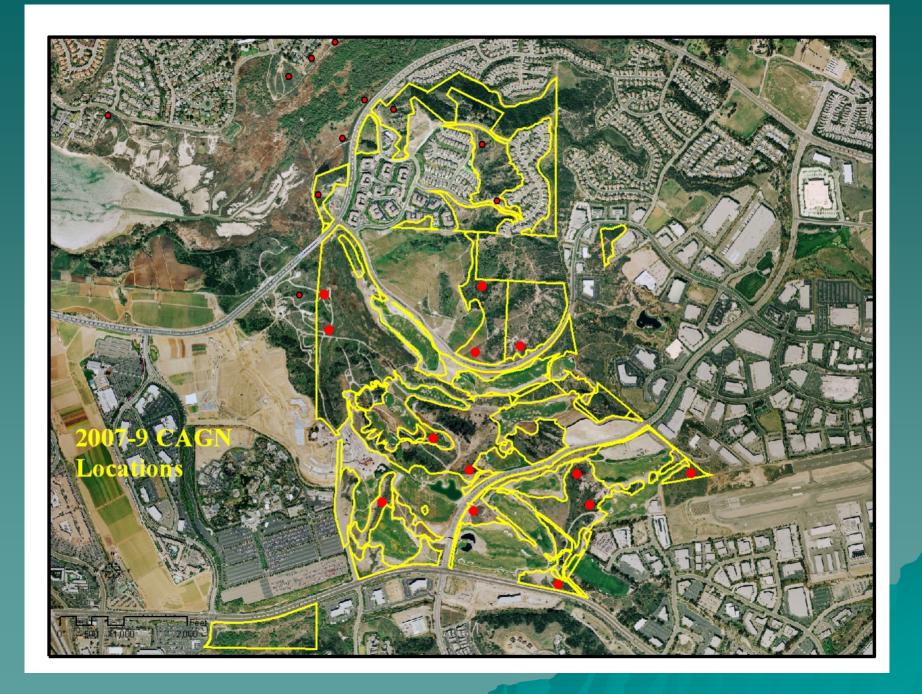
# Current and background information

- No baseline CAGN across Carlsbad has ever been collected.
- Between 2007-8 about 1,300 to 1,500 acres of suitable habitat surveyed and about 84 pairs and 28 individuals observed, including the golf course.
- In 2009, an additional 300-400 acres were surveyed and approximately 10-12 more pairs were found.











#### Least Bell's Vireo



### Thread-leaved brodiaea

#### ◆ Goals:

- Monitor trend in population
- Assess habitat quality
- Develop approach to improve habitat quality to protect and enhance the species
  - ◆ Does fusilade have a negative impact on TLB?
  - ◆ Does fusilade or dethatch improve TLB density?
  - ◆ Do nonnative grasses impact TLB?



# Study Method

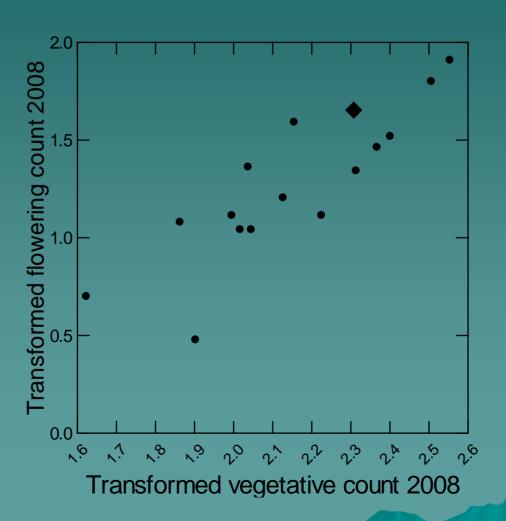
- Set up three study plots within which there are 16 subplots.
- Treatments include fusilade, dethatch, fusilade and dethatch and a control.
- We've treated in 2007, 2008 and 2009.
- Measure variables
   (scape and number of flowers), percent cover of plant species, number of TLB



# TLB Preliminary Study Results

- Many more TLB protected than originally thought!
  We estimated that 8,291 flowered in 2008.
- But our study revealed that between 2 and 26% flowered in 2008, so there are many more TLB.
- We counted close to 30,000 TLB in vegetative state in 2008 in our study plots.
- Fusilade has not impacted TLB.
- No significant difference in plant characteristics (# of flowers and scape length) observed in the data.

Figure 8, scatterplot of flowering counts as a response to vegetative counts in macro-plot 3, measured in winter and spring 2008, respectively. Counts were Log 10 transformed to meet normality assumptions in analyses. Transect 9 counts are represented by the large diamond.







# Coastal Sage Scrub/Fusilade Experiment in East County

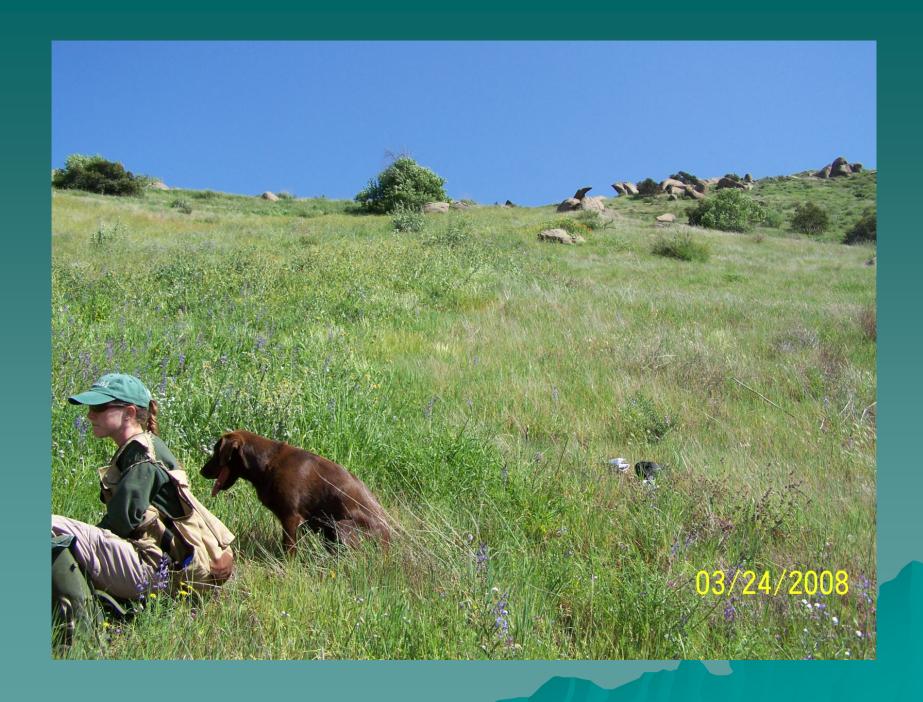
#### ◆ Goal:

- Reduce cover of nonnative grasses in post fire CSS and within stands of native grasslands/forbs/recovering CSS dominated by nonnative grasses
  - ◆ Two study areas with a total of 12 treatment plots. Two treatments of fusilade at different concentrations and one control.
  - Also sprayed two acres of nonnative grassland in 2008.
  - ◆ Treated plots in 2007 and 2008. Pre-spray data collection in 2006, with follow up collection in 2007 and 2009.

# Preliminary Results

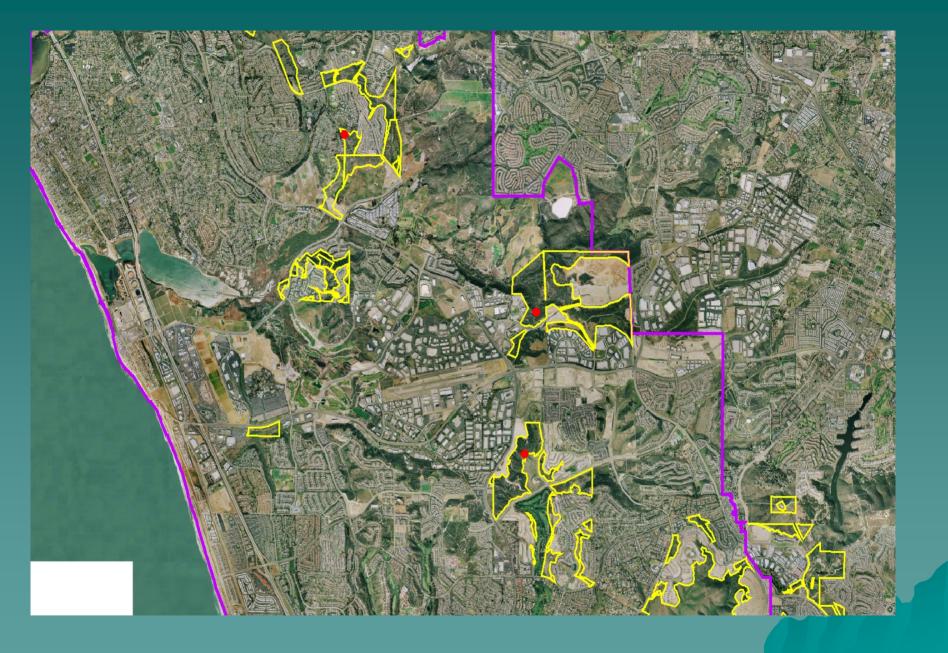
- Nonnative grasses (B. madritensis) reduced from and average 50% cover (+/- 16%) to 10% (+/- 4%) from 2006 to 2007
- No impact or significant decrease in any native forbs
- Primary post fire shrub was deerweed, no impact to this species
- Additional decrease in Erodium





### San Diego Thornmint

- CNLM found a new locality of SDTM at "Village X" in Calavera Hills (2 individuals in '08 and 4 in '09).
- 300 SDTM at La Costa Greens, new locality as of 2003.
- 505 in '08 and 556 in '09 at Carlsbad Oaks North
- Habitat Evaluations in progress



	Native					
	Acanthomintha ilicifolia	Apiastrum angustifolium	Convolvulus simulans	Deinandra fasciculata	Harpagonella palmeri	Plantago erecta
2007	0.6%	1.7%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%
2008	2.8%	9.3%	2.8%	20.4%	1.9%	4.6%
		Exotic			Edaphic	
	<i>Avena</i> sp.	Bromus madritensis	Centaurea melitensis	Sonchus oleraceus	bare ground	litter
2007	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	73.3%	26.7%
2008	1.9%	8.3%	3.7%	1.9%	89.8%	11.1%

### Orcutt's hazardia

CNLM introduced 25 OH in 2003 and 100 OH in 2004 at Kelly Ranch.

	2007	2008
# adults	104	100
# seedlings alive	3	16
# seedlings dead	0	5
Total seedlings count	3	21

#### **CSS Habitat Evaluation**

- CNLM commenced its CSS Habitat Evaluation in the spring of 2009.
- Study will consist of close to 50 study plots. Approximately 30 were set up and 20 collected from in 2009.
- Consists of a large 20 x 50 meter plot with a number of sub-plots. Stratified by a number of variables. Point-intercept along one edge. Data will include cover, richness and diversity.